Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-10 (Previously Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a supported catalyst component for the production of hollow beads of polyethylene comprising: (a) providing a first component characterized by the formula:

wherein R is an alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; (b) providing a porous functionalized bead of polystyrene characterized by the formula:

wherein A is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having from 2 to 18 carbon atoms providing a flexible arm;

creating a covalent bond between the component of subparagraph (a) and the porous functionalized bead of subparagraph (b) to produce a complex characterized by the formula:

providing a first alkyl- or aryl-amine characterized by the formula:

R'-NH2

wherein: R' is an alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted aryl group, or a substituted aryl group having substituents having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms:

providing a second alkyl- or aryl-imine characterized by the formula:

R"-NH2

wherein: R" is an alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, a substituted aryl group, or a substituted aryl group having substituents having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; provided that R" may be the same or different as R'; reacting the complex of subparagraph (c) with said first and second alkyl- or aryl-amines of subparagraphs (d) and (e) to produce a bis-imine complex characterized by the formula:

wherein R, R' and R" are as defined above and R' and R" may be the same or different; and

reacting the bis-imine of subparagraph (f) with ferric chloride in a solvent to produce a catalyst component characterized by formula:

wherein R, R' and R" are as defined above.

- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the alkyl group A contains from 3 to 6 carbon atoms.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein R is an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein R' and R" are the same and are substituted or unsubstituted phenyl groups.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein said phenyl groups are substituted with isopropyl groups at positions 2 and 6.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein said phenyl groups are substituted with methyl groups at positions 2, 4 and 6.

17.-21. (Canceled)